

A New and an Unrecorded Species of *Thecobathra* MEYRICK (Lepidoptera, Yponomeutidae) from Thailand^{1,2)}

Sigeru MORIUTI

Entomological Laboratory, College of Agriculture,
University of Osaka Prefecture, Sakai, 591 Japan

The genus *Thecobathra* comprises 15 species and is known from Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan, Assam, Central and South China, Formosa and Japan (MORIUTI, 1971; LIU, 1980). In the present paper, a description is given of a new species of the genus from Thailand and *T. lambda* (MORIUTI) is recorded from Thailand for the first time. This is the first record of the genus not only from Thailand but from Southeast Asia.

Thecobathra kurokoi n. sp.

(Figs. 1, 3)

♂. 13 mm. Head snow-white. Antenna whitish. Palpus snow-white, with middle segment slightly tinged with very pale yellow. Thorax with ordinarily small patagium; snow-white. Legs snow-white; fore tibia and tarsi and mid tarsi and spurs tinged with very pale yellow; hind tibia with a small ochreous apical spot, marked with a blackish-brown dot, outside and inside; hind tarsi and spurs slightly tinged with very pale greyish yellow. Abdomen snow-white, suffused with pale grey on dorsal surface; anal tuft snow-white. Forewing rather narrow, with the length about 2.8 times the width; termen straight; snow-white; extreme costal edge black-brown towards base; a distinct, short, outwardly-oblique black-brown streak on fold before middle of wing-length, not reaching dorsum; about 15 scales tipped with black brown very sparsely sprinkled, excluding basal 1/4 and distal 1/3; cilia snow-white, without apical line. Hindwing with M_3 and Cu_{1a} connate; wing and cilia white, somewhat tinged with pale silver grey.

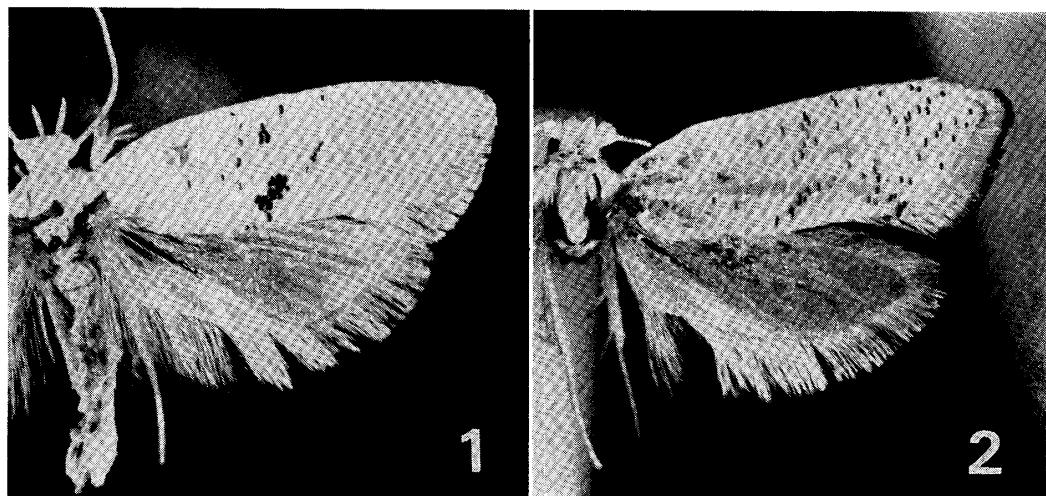
Male genitalia: as in Fig. 3. Socius stout, strongly bending near base, and set with fine hairs. Ventral plate of gnathos sclerotized, rounded, with neither processes nor teeth nor spines; tuba analis membranous, except for a narrowly sclerotized portion in basal half. Valva profusely clothed with long hairs in ventral 2/3, the dorsal margin being simple and arched; sacculus defined, rather small, produced. Saccus rather long. Aedeagus long and slender, with a row of about 20 minute teeth in apical 2/7, and with a very short range of microscopic teeth at apical extremity, as shown in Fig. 3a.

♀. Unknown.

Specimen examined: Holotype ♂, Thailand, Nakorn Nayok, Kao Yai, 26. VIII. 1981 (H. KUROKO, S. MORIUTI, Y. ARITA & Y. YOSHIYASU), in the collection of Entomological Laboratory, University of Osaka Prefecture.

¹⁾ Scientific Results of the Lepidopterological Expedition to Thailand, No. 2.

²⁾ This study was supported by the Grant-in-aid for Overseas Scientific Research (No. 56041051) from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Japan.



Figs. 1-2. *Thecobathra* spp. (1) *T. kurokoi* n. sp., ♂, holotype (left wing, image reversed); (2) *T. lambda* (MORIUTI), ♂, Thailand.

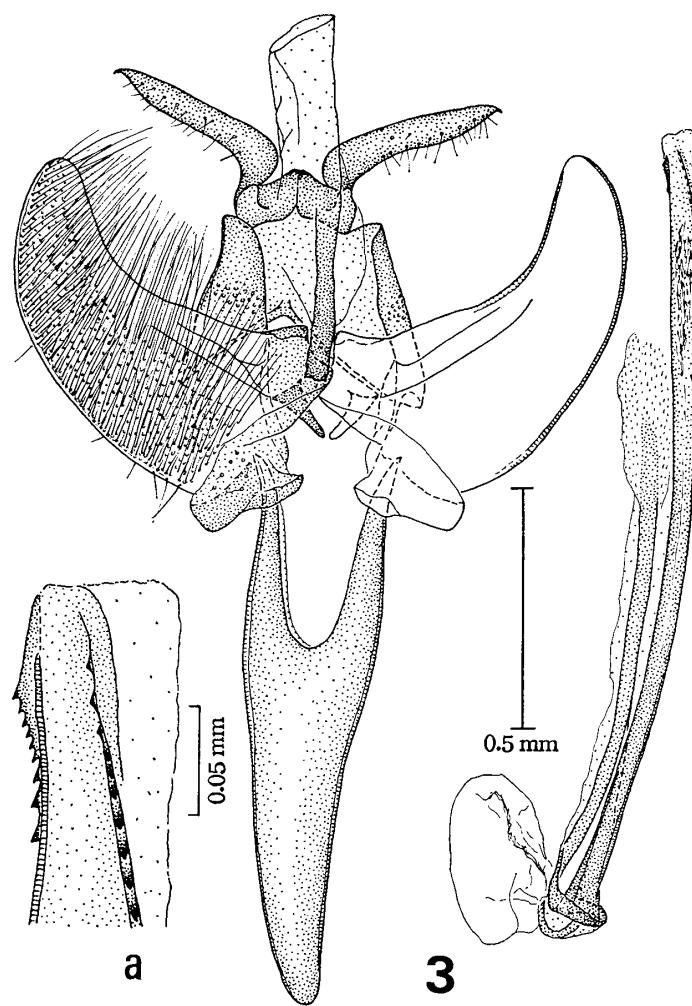


Fig. 3. *Thecobathra kurokoi* n. sp., ♂ genitalia, holotype. a: Apex of aedeagus.

Distribution: Thailand.

Host-plant: Unknown.

Remarks: This new species is easily recognized by the cilia of forewing lacking in the apical line; the unicolorous cilia are atypical of the genus *Thecobathra*. Judging from the figure and description given by LIU (1980), this species is allied to the Chinese *T. ovata* LIU in the male genitalia, but differs from it in the gnathos with the ventral plate not spined and sclerotized instead of membrane, and in the aedeagus with the teeth much smaller in size and in number. Although given the description of genital characters, *ovata* was not given that of superficial characters in the original description.

The name of this species is dedicated to Prof. Hiroshi KUROKO.

Thecobathra lambda (MORIUTI)

(Fig. 2)

Pseudocalantica lambda MORIUTI, 1963: 222–223, figs. 6, 22–26.

Thecobathra lambda: MORIUTI, 1971: 237–238, figs. 5, 17, 23, 39.—LIU, 1980: 33–34.

Specimens examined: 6♂, 2♀, Thailand, Nakorn Nayok, Kao Yai, 26. VIII. 1981 (H. KUROKO, S. MORIUTI, Y. ARITA & Y. YOSHIYASU).

Distribution: Thailand, Central China and Formosa.

Host-plant: *Liquidambar formosana* HANCE (Hamamelidaceae) in Formosa.

Remarks: This species was originally described from Formosa, and recently recorded by LIU (1980) from China (Provinces of Hunan, Kiangsi and Chekiang).

The Thai specimens I have seen are identical with the type-series of *lambda* in the superficial appearance as well as in the genital characters. The specimens of *lambda* show slight variation in the teeth of aedeagus of male genitalia. In the aedeagus, the apical two-thirds is armed with two rows of many small teeth in the average specimens. In one Thai specimen examined, the aedeagus is armed with these rows of teeth in its apical half.

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my hearty thanks to Prof. H. KUROKO, the leader of our expedition to Thailand in 1981, for interest and encouragement in the course of the work. My sincere thanks are also due to Dr A. LEWVANICH, Mr Y. ARITA and Mr Y. YOSHIYASU, all of the members of the expedition, for material used in this work. I am especially grateful to Dr T. WONGSIRI and Mr M. RUMAKOM, both of the Thai Department of Agriculture, for kind support during my stay in Thailand.

References

- LIU, Y., 1980. A study of Chinese *Thecobathra* MEYRICK (Lepidoptera: Yponomeutidae). *Entomotaxon.*, 2: 33–40. (In Chinese with English summary.)
- MORIUTI, S., 1963. Studies on the Yponomeutoidea (II). Two Yponomeutid genera, *Niphonympha* and *Pseudocalantica*, of Japan and Formosa (Lepidoptera). *Kontyû*, 31: 215–233.
- , 1971. A revision of the world species of *Thecobathra* (Lepidoptera: Yponomeutidae). *Ibid.*, 39: 230–251.

摘要

タイ国産 *Thecobathra* 属の 1 新種と 1 未記録種 (森内 茂)

タイ国産 *Thecobathra* 属のスガを扱った。すなわち、1 新種 *kurokoi* MORIUTI を記載し、従来、台湾、中国から知られた *lambda* (MORIUTI) を初めて記録した。本属は東南アジアからは未記録であった。